



introducing your new-look *Accounting and Business*

■ ACCA has re-launched its flagship magazine for members, *Accounting and Business*, giving it a sharper look and making it more user-friendly too.

But as the magazine's new editor – Chris Quick – says, the changes are about substance too, as well as style:

“Editorially, we aim to increase our focus on people and provide more articles of practical help to readers.

Whatever sector they work in, ACCA members face tough challenges and increasing demands on their time as we enter 2009. Our redesign and new ethos aim to recognise this. It will also champion ACCA's core values: innovation, integrity, accountability, opportunity and diversity.”

Your copy of *Accounting and Business* also has a higher concentration of content relevant to members in the UK, as part of a strategy

to publish regional editions that best meet the needs of members in key markets.

If you haven't already seen the new look magazine look out for your April issue shortly.

Feedback on the new look *Accounting and Business* is welcome and can be emailed to abeditor@accglobal.com. ■

ACCA Wales launches health panel

■ **ACCA Wales has convened a new body to assist in the development of health finance professionals and address related issues within the National Health Service in Wales.**

The ACCA Wales Health Panel draws together senior representatives from all the major NHS organisations in Wales as well as leading civil servants from the Department of Health and Social Services in the Welsh Assembly Government.

As health is an area of competency devolved to the Welsh Assembly Government, it is considered that such a Panel is needed to address the specific and differing structures and developments within the NHS in Wales. However, the Panel will work closely with, and complement, the existing ACCA UK Health Panel.

As well as providing an opportunity to look at specific developmental opportunities for our members within the health service and provide evidence-based responses to government consultation, the Panel will also be heavily involved in the planning and implementation of the highly-successful annual ACCA Wales Health Conference.

The development of the new Panel for NHS Wales takes place against a backdrop of significant change for the NHS in Wales with the Welsh Assembly Government pushing forward a large-scale reconfiguration programme.

The new Panel comprises the following members:

- Mark Bowling** Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University NHS Trust
- Jeff Buggle** Welsh Assembly Government
- Lynda Creegan** NLAH
- Paul Davies** Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust
- Stuart Davies** Health Commission Wales
- Andrew Jones** Rhondda Cynon Taf Local Health Board
- John Jones** Wales Ambulance Services NHS Trust
- David Lewis** Cwm Taf NHS Trust
- Peter Lewis** North Wales Business Support Partnership
- Tim Kelland** Health Commission Wales. ■

careers support from ACCA

■ **At ACCA we are always working to provide tailored information and specialist advice for all key elements and stages in your career. A special section has been set up on the ACCA global website to collate information and advice to support members during the current economic situation – visit www.accaglobal.com/economy/ for more information.**

As the global economy goes into meltdown, with governments, economists, and financiers predicting worse to come, the market for accountancy skills is changing. For general help and advice on all aspects of your career visit

the ACCA Career Pathway at www.accaglobal.com/careers/.

ACCA's legal service can be a useful tool for those with questions on their legal standing in their current role, or for company directors who would like to clarify their duties and responsibilities as an employer. For more information please visit uk.accaglobal.com/uk/members/support/uk/legal_service.

Finally, for details of reduced subscription rates available for those who meet certain criteria, please visit www.accaglobal.com/members/support/subscriptions/reduce ■

coaching and mentoring – is it working?

■ **ACCA has just released its latest insight report called *The coaching and mentoring revolution – is it working?***

The role of the finance professional is changing. Core accounting skills are still a prerequisite, but increasing competition, globalisation and business regulation have resulted in an expectation that the finance professional is now an essential contributor to strategy, risk management and business performance. Consequently, finance professionals must develop not only their 'finance' technical skills but they must embrace the competencies of business leaders and develop enabling high performance behaviours, attitudes and styles.

Coaching and mentoring are increasingly popular development tools across the profession which aim to develop both the technical acumen of finance professionals and also the wider commercial and behavioural skills that accountants need. This research explores how successful current practices are and provides practical guidance for organisations to improve these development processes.

You can download and read the full report by visiting our website:

www.accaglobal.com/employers/approved/services/employers/develop/professional_insight ■



make your mark in Africa

■ **Are you considering a career break? Would you like an exciting new challenge that allows you to take your accountancy skills abroad?**

The Diocese of Masasi in Tanzania is in urgent need of a volunteer qualified accountant to review its accountancy practices and to help it set up modern accountancy systems appropriate to local resources and technology. Overall programme support will be provided by an experienced UK-based management consultant who has been working with the Diocese.

Your air fare, accommodation, in-country travel and food will also be provided. For a more in-depth discussion, please contact Peter Ramrayka, VSO Volunteer, on 07885 753 755 or e-mail pramrayka@compuserve.com. ■



Julia receives her award from Mark Millar (Chair of the ACCA UK Health Service Network Panel) and Richard Aitken-Davies (ACCA President). This took place on Friday 13 March and the sharp eyed amongst you will spot Mark's 'Comic Relief' t-shirt.

award winning panel member

■ **Julia Rudrum FCCA, Acting Managing Director, South Coast Audit and ACCA UK Health Service Network Panel member has been awarded the ACCA UK 2008 Contribution Award – Employment Based Members' Networks.**

Julia has contributed to the Network in many ways, but her biggest contribution is leading on the three year NHS governance study that ACCA is conducting in conjunction with the Department of Health. The judges were unanimous in their decision to make the award to Julia. ■

coming up

■ **The ACCA UK Health Service Network will be holding the following, free, events for members (all events take place in London):**

- **World Class Commissioning** (re-scheduled)
Gary Belfields, Director of Commissioning, Department of Health
Tuesday 14 April (12.00 – 14.00)
- **Joint Financial Working Experiences in Brighton**
Speaker: Michael Schofield FCCA, Director of Finance, NHS Brighton and Hove
Tuesday 26 May (12:00 – 14:00)
- **The Performance Framework**
Janet Perry, NHS Financial Controller, Department of Health
Tuesday 30 June (12:00 – 14:00)

For further information and to book, visit <http://tinyurl.com/6cmq5e>

Professional Courses

ACCA UK's Professional Courses team will be holding the following events for members in the health sector:

- **Exceptional Leadership Skills for Exceptional Leaders**
27 April (09.15 – 17.00)
- **Service Line Management & Patient-Level Costing – Introduction**
6 May (09.15 – 17.00)
- **Communicate with Clarity and Conviction**
8 May (09.15 – 17.00)
- **Integrating Financial and Non-Financial Performance Measurement**
3 June (09.15 – 17.00)
- **Influencing with Integrity**
5 June (09.15 – 17.00)
- **Service Line Management & Patient-Level Costing – Implementation**
19 June (09.15 – 17.00)

- **IFRS in the NHS**
3 July (09.15 – 17.00)
- **Coaching for Performance**
17 July (09.15 – 17.00)

All listed courses take place in London, between 09.15 and 17.00. Each course costs £295, with discounts available at £280 per course when booking two and £265 per course when booking three or more. To book, please e-mail professionalcourses@uk.accaglobal.com or call 020 7059 5910.

Date for Diary

ACCA UK's annual Health Sector Finance Conference will be held on Monday 14 September in London. Further details will be made available in due course. ■